

# GENESIS



## HATRED OF ENEMY

- (1) There are two books in the Bible the great Enemy of mankind especially hates, and has bent all his energies to discredit, and they are Genesis and Revelation.
- (2) He has attempted to overthrow Genesis by attacks of scientists and other critics, and Revelation by persuading men it is too mysterious.
- (3) Why do you think this is? Because they both prophesy his downfall—Genesis tells us Who would bring this about, and Revelation gives details of its execution.

## ITS GREAT VALUE

- (1) In many respects it is the *most important book in the Bible*. Every great leading fact, truth and revelation is found here in germ—as the oak in the acorn. Melancthon stated: “*The whole book of Genesis excels in sweetness all other books and histories,*” and “*There is no more beautiful and lovable little book.*”
- (2) Dr. Bullinger says: “*Genesis is the seed-plot of the whole Bible, and it is essential to the true understanding of its every part. It is the foundation on which the Divine Revelation rests, and on which it is built up. It is not only the foundation of all Truth, but it enters into and forms part of all subsequent inspiration; and is at once the warp and woof of Holy Writ.*” Genesis is the book of beginnings.

## ITS AUTHOR AND ORIGIN

- (1) The book was written by Moses. But how did he get his materials? Is it a mere compilation from ancient documents? Examine the old relics with this, and you will see the improbability of accepting that theory.
- (2) Is it a written record of traditional lore? Many think so, and it is not as impossible as some imagine. Milton, in his “Paradise Lost”, depicts Gabriel relating to Adam the wonders of Creation. This is pure fiction; but the Lord, no doubt, would communicate coveted knowledge to Adam, who told Methuselah, who told Noah, who told, Shem, who told Abraham, who told Isaac, who told Jacob, who told Joseph, from whose writings Moses would learn it.
- (3) But Acts 7:37-38 leave us in no doubt as to its origin—it was received by Moses from God—it was born on Mount Sinai.
- (4) Dr. Adam Clark writes: “*The narrative is so simple, so much like truth, so consistent everywhere with itself, so correct in its dates, so impartial in its biography, so accurate in its philosophical details, so pure in its morality, and so benevolent in its design, as amply to demonstrate that it never could have had an earthly origin.*”

## STYLE

*It is written in prose, not poetry.* This is important. Poetry forms handy clothing for myth and legend, as other ancient books. Thus Genesis is written, not in a mythical, but an historical style—for it is history and fact, not fable.

## ANALYSIS

- (1) It could be divided into eleven sections; the expression “the generation of” being the beginning of each section, except the first—as for instance, Section I., Chapter 1 to 2:3. Section II., Chapter 2:4 to 4:26. Section III., Chapter 5:1 to 6:8, etc.
- (2) But for easy analysis, taking “Beginning” as the keyword, we have nine sections:

DIVISION (A) PRIMEVAL HISTORY, COVERING A PERIOD OF OVER 2,000 YEARS								(B) Patriarchal History Over 300 Years.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
The Beginning of the Material Universe.	Beginning of the Human Race.	Beginning of Human Sin.	Beginning of Revelation of Redemption.	Beginning of Human Family Life.	Beginning of Godless Civilization.	Beginning of Nations of the World.	Beginning of Confusion of Language.	Beginning of the Hebrew Race.
1:1-25	1:26 to 2	3:1-7	3:8-24	4:1-15	4:16 to 9	10	11	12 to 50
1. Verse 1 gives us the original creation. 2. Isaiah 45:18 elaborates on this. 3. Take Note of 2 Peter 3:5-6. 4. The 6 days were possibly days of reconstruction.	1. Man created, not evolved. 2. Placed in charge of a reclaimed wilderness, for “Eden” is Accadian for “wilderness.”	1. Tampering with Word of God. The Woman subtracted from and added to the Word of the Lord. 2. She “Saw,” “Took,” “Gave.”	1. First promise of a Redeemer, the beginning of all subsequent revelations. 2. The next time we meet the Cherubim we find no sword because of blood (Ex. 25:20).	1. First Family. 2. First family quarrel and that over religion. 3. Note R.V. of Verse 7, where sin is likened to the crouching of a wild beast.	1. First city built, and city life originated by a murderer. 2. Note 4:23 & 26.	1. A very important section. 2. Here we have the title deeds of the nations.	1. A first attempt at unity apart from God. 2. This attempt at Babel to unify mankind will be repeated by Anti-Christ, see Rev. 17.	1. This section is largely a biographical one. 2. We have history of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

## ITS MESSAGE

- (1) Its distinctive message is: The failure of man under every condition met by the Salvation of God.
- (2) It was necessary for man to know by failure his own weakness and insufficiency, before he would voluntarily choose God.
- (3) In this book man is seen to fail: (1) Amidst ideal environment (Eden). (2) Under the rule of conscience (from Fall to Flood), (3) Under Patriarchal rule (from Noah to Joseph). Note, the book begins with God, and ends with a coffin.
- (4) But human failure is met by the Divine grace and activity. Where sin abounded grace did much more abound.